

SCHISANDRA MICHAUX, NOMEN GENERICUM CONSERVANDUM

ALFRED REHDER

THE validity of the name *Schisandra* Michaux seems never to have been questioned. Neither de Candolle, in 1817 and 1824, nor Bentham and Hooker, in 1862, cite *Stellandria* Brickell of 1803 as a synonym. Brickell's name was published the same year as *Schisandra* Michaux, but evidently several weeks earlier than Michaux's name.

Brickell's paper containing the generic and specific description of *Stellandria* and its only species, *S. glabra*, was published in number 3 of vol. 6 of the Medical Repository of New York. This volume was the last of the first hexade; of this hexade each volume starts in the middle of the year and was published in quarterly numbers, the third number appearing at the beginning of the following year. The numbers probably had covers which may have borne the exact date of publication, but none of the libraries I consulted had a copy with the covers preserved. Fortunately each number has several dated communications which allow a conclusion as to the approximate date of issue. Of number 3 (pp. 237–352) in volume 6, the latest dated communication is of February 22, appearing on p. 342 near the end of the number,¹ which shows that the number was published either at the very end of February or early in March. The latest date in number 4 is March 31 (p. 442), which indicates that the number came out sometime in April. The numbers being issued quarterly, number 3 should have appeared about three months before number 4, which apparently is not the case here, but it strengthens the assumption that number 3 must have appeared early in March.

Michaux's *Flora Boreali-Americana* apparently did not appear before March, 1803. The earliest notice of this work appeared in the Allgemeine Literatur-Zeitung in the number of March 19 of its Intelligenzblatt, where Michaux's *Flora Boreali-Americana* is enumerated as being for sale in Paris and Strasburg: "bei den Gebrüdern Levrault, Buchhändlern in Paris und Strasburg, sind folgende Bücher in Menge zu haben . . . *Flora Boreali-Americana* . . . par Michaux . . ." (See Bernice G. Schubert in *Rhodora* 44: 149, 1942). There is also a later note on the publication of Michaux's *Flora Boreali-Americana* in *Journal Général de la Litterature de la France* 6 (no. 5): 133 (an XI, Floréal [= April–May, 1803]). The dates of Michaux's *Flora* and Brickell's article are certainly very close, but there is no reason to assume that Michaux's work came out earlier than number 3 of volume 6 of the Medical Repository.

¹In this communication the establishment of the American Board of Agriculture is announced with a list of the members of the Board. The Constitution of the Board is reprinted in the following number of the Medical Repository on pp. 465–469.

Though *Schisandra* is not a large genus, containing about 15 species in eastern and southern Asia and one in North America, and is of neither economic nor horticultural importance, it is the type of a distinct group of the Ranales including the genus *Kadsura* Juss., with its name derived from *Schisandra*, the type of the group. By most authors this group is considered a tribe or subfamily of Magnoliaceae, called by Gray (in Gen. Pl. U. S. **1**: 54. 1849) tribe Schizandreae, and by Harms (in Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Ges. **15**: 358. 1897) subfam. Schizandroideae. By some older authors the group has been placed under the Menispermaceae, as by de Candolle (Prodr. **1**: 104. 1824) designated as Menispermeae trib. Schizandreae, and by Spach (Hist. Nat. Vég. Phan. **8**: 6. 1839) as Menispermaceae trib. Schizandreae. Other authors consider it a distinct family, as Guillemain (in Dict. Class. Hist. Nat. **15**: 239. 1829) under the name Schizandreae, G. Don (Gen. Hist. Dichlam. Pl. **1**: 101. 1831) as Schizandriaceae, Blume & Fischer, Fl. Java **3**: 1. 1836) as Schizandraceae.

Michaux's original spelling, *Schisandra*, was used by all authors up to 1818, as by Willdenow, Sp. Pl. **4**: 372 (1805), Poiret, Encyc. Méth. Bot. **6**: 729 (1805), Sims in Bot. Mag. **34**: t. 1413 (1811), Aiton f., Hort. Kew., ed. 2, **5**: 268 (1811), Pursh, Fl. Bor.-Am. **1**: 212 (1814), Nuttall, Gen. N. Am. Pl. **2**: 209 (1818), except Desfontaines, Hist. Arb. Arbriss. **2**: 25 (1809), who spells the name *Schizandra*.

After the publication, however, in 1817 of the first volume of de Candolle's Regni Vegetabilis Systema Naturale, in which he used the spelling *Schizandra* without explanation of its derivation, most authors, except some more recent authors, one of the earliest being Schneider (Ill. Handb. Laubholzk. **1**: 340. 1905), accepted his spelling, considering it apparently a correction, since almost all generic names of similar derivation begin with Schiz . . . , the first part of the compound name being derived from *σχίζειν*, to split. Also, in works like Wittstein, Ethymologisch-Botanisches Handwörterbuch, p. 792 (1852), and Backer, Verklarend Woordenboek, p. 517 (1936), the name is said to be derived from *σχίζειν* and *ανηρ* and this derivation is found in all books in which the derivations of the botanical names are given, though Michaux states explicitly that *Schisandra* is derived from "*Σχισις, Ανηρ: fissurae antheris interjectae*"; *σχισις* or more correctly written *σχίσις*, division, splitting, and *ἀνῆρ*, man. Therefore the spelling *Schisandra* is correct according to its derivation, and, being the original spelling, it should be maintained.

Chiefly for the reason that *Schisandra* is the type of a distinct group of the Ranales with its name or names based on this genus, and because *Stellandria* has never been used by any subsequent author and seems not to have been listed even as a synonym until cited in 1895 by Jackson, Ind. Kew. **2**: 826, under *Schizandra*, the name *Schisandra* is here proposed for conservation.

Schisandra Michaux, Fl. Bor.-Am. **2**: 218, *t.* 47 (March, 1803)

versus

Stellandria Brickell in Med. Repos. New York **6** (no. 3): 327 (end of Feb. or early in March, 1803).

Schizandra Desfontaines, Hist. Arb. Arbriss. **2**: 25 (1809). — De Candolle, Reg. Veg. Syst. **1**: 544 [1817]; Prodr. **1**: 104 (1824).

Sphaerostema Blume, Bijdr. Fl. Nederl. Ind. 22 (1825). — G. Don, Gen. Hist. Dichlam. Pl. **1**: 101 (1831) "*Sphaerostemma*."

Cosbaea Hort. ex Lemaire in Ill. Hortic. **2** (Misc.): 71, fig. (1855).

Maximowiczia Ruprecht in Bull. Phys.-Math. Acad. Sci. St. Pétersb. **15**: 142, *t.* 2 (in Mém. Biol. **2**: 439, *t.* 2. 1857) (1856) "*Maximowitschia*" sub tab.

TYPUS: *Schisandra coccinea* Michx. = *S. glabra* (Brickell) Rehder.

Schisandra glabra (Brickell) comb. nov.

Stellandria glabra Brickell in Med. Repos. New York **6** (no. 3): 327 (end of Feb. or early in March, 1803).

Schisandra coccinea Michaux, Fl. Bor.-Am. **2**: 219, *t.* 47 (March, 1803). — Desfontaines, Hist. Arb. Arbriss. **2**: 25 (1809), "*Schizandra*." — De Candolle, Reg. Veg. Syst. **1**: 544 [1817], "*Schizandra*."

ARNOLD ARBORETUM,

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.